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slipping in the ground glass and to my joy finding the image of the Sun still in the centre of the field.

"In going so far north I myself felt—perhaps because of the experiences of my respected uncle, Piazzi Smyth, on the Peak of Teneriffe—that much might be gained by this first setting up of really powerful instruments in so high a latitude, the atmosphere being, without doubt, *different* from that in lower latitudes, and especially in the tropics.

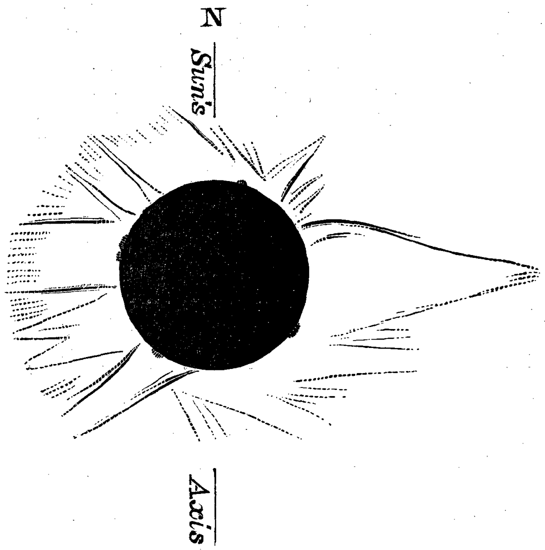
"I trust that our results, enhanced in value because the clerk of the weather saw fit to send clouds or rain to all the other stations scientifically occupied, will be of practical value in many ways, and especially, as it were, as stepping-stones between the photographic results first obtained in 1893 and those which will be secured in 1898."

Sir George Baden-Powell further expressed the opinion that, although he was glad to have been able to assist science by organising this expedition, it should not have been necessary to do so. Having had experience of the cost of such expeditions, he considered the amount placed at the disposal of the Committee was quite inadequate for the occupying of a proper number of stations; and he trusted it might be largely increased on future occasions. Should, however, the assistance of a yacht again be unavoidably necessary, he and Lady Baden-Powell would gladly again do all in their power, should they be free.

This generous offer was cordially acknowledged by the Fellows present.

Mr. W. H. Wesley, Assistant Secretary to the Society, who has had great experience in drawing different coronas, made the following remarks on the corona of 1896:—

"The resemblance between the corona of 1896, as shown on



Outline of Corona of 1885.

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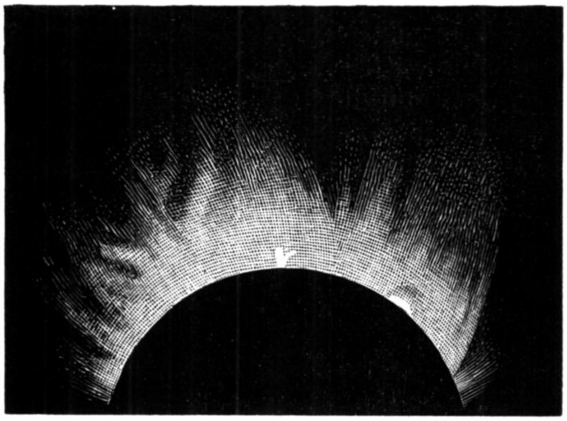
the Novaya Zemlya photographs, and that of 1886 is very striking—closer, in fact, than that between any two coronas of different years that have yet been photographed. It may be interesting also to compare the corona of 1896 with that of 1885 (eleven years before), and I therefore give a rough outline which I sketched some years ago from negatives taken in New Zealand, which have never been published. The corona of 1885 does not appear so much like that of 1896, as the long extension on the north-west, shown in the latter year and in 1886, is in 1885 much nearer the Equator—forming, in fact, an equatorial extension. The sketch has been oriented from indications on the original; but should there be any mistake on this point, and the north pole of the Sun's axis in 1885 lie some 45° further west, the resemblance between the corona of that year and that of 1896 would be decidedly close.



Sketch of detail in the Corona of 1896.

"The corona photographs which have been taken in Novaya Zemlya are extremely beautiful, but, of course, no lantern slides can do justice to the original negatives. Some of the detail on the south-east quadrant appears to me of an unusual, if not unique, kind. This will be better understood from the rough sketch which I have made from a positive copy of one of the negatives; but a study of the originals would doubtless reveal much more than can be made out from the copy."

Comparison of the Sun's Longitudes for 1901, *computed from Newcomb's Tables of the Sun with those computed from Le Verrier's Tables.* By A. M. W. Downing, M.A., D.Sc., F.R.S.

The following comparison exhibits the corrections to apparent longitudes of the Sun (referred to the mean equinox of date), taken from Le Verrier's *Tables du Soleil*, deduced from the corresponding longitudes taken from Newcomb's Tables at eight-day intervals during the year 1901.

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